

Project: WVU Medicine Berkeley Medical Center

Location: Martinsburg, West Virginia

Architect: VEBH Architects, P.C.

Products: Acrovyn by Design®, Acrovyn®



About the Project

WVU Medicine University Healthcare brings together Berkeley Medical Center, Jefferson Medical Center and West Virginia University Hospitals to deliver superior healthcare close to home for residents of West Virginia's growing Eastern Panhandle. As part of its commitment to local communities, the system continually listens to patients and responds with innovative care and facility upgrades. In early February 2016, the system's evolution of care led to the opening of a new 13-bed progressive care unit on the second floor of Berkeley Medical Center. The project, which replaced semi-private patient rooms with private patient rooms, challenged VEBH Architects to create a comfortable, bright space to help patients feel more at ease during their stay in the unit.

Design Goals

Berkeley Medical Center's 40-year old progressive-care unit – for patients who require less than intensive care, but more than medical or surgical unit care – required a major infrastructure upgrade. The unit was redesigned with satellite nursing stations between every two rooms in the corridor, giving nurses and aides a clear view of patients through large windows. To create a less institutional and more home-like feeling for patients, the design team turned their attention to the unit's walls.



At a Glance: Acrovyn by Design

Acrovyn by Design combined a custom look and durability that achieved its goal of creating a patient environment with a hospitality appeal.

Results

The private second floor patient rooms at WVU Medicine Berkeley Medical Center feature fun floor curves and softened corners filled with warm shades of brown, gray, violet and blue. Acrovyn by Design was used to incorporate a beautiful nature theme of wheat fields and lily pads. Acrovyn protective wall covering in Chinchilla, Parchment and Tan Bark with trim of Brushed Silver added an accent with color, creating an optimum-healing environment.

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“Functional clinical elements like patient headwalls were softened with nature inspired graphic images,” said Mike Crist, Project Supervisor at Berkeley Medical Center. “This was an important element in achieving the hospital's goal of creating a patient environment with a residential/hospitality appeal.”

“Graphically designed walls have not traditionally been popular in healthcare due to concerns about damage to the image from carts and high traffic,” said Beverly Shelby of VEBH Architects. “Using Acrovyn by Design was a no-brainer for us. Its digital print is high quality and can handle the daily abuse healthcare walls face. We will continue using Acrovyn by Design as we add seven more rooms to the floor. This project is a showcase for how wall protection by Acrovyn can be used as a true design element.”

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